

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11 & MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2018

FROM PASTOR HAEUSSLER

I want you to give up something for Lent! Where did the practice of giving up something for Lent originate? On the surface, many Early Christians wanted to give up something during Lent in order to identify with Jesus who gave up everything - even up to suffering death and eternal death - for us out of love. On a deeper level, they did this so that they would grow in faith - intentionally turning away from themselves and the world and turning to God and His Word - which takes hold of the power of God to live forever and to live now!

Do you want to live a better life in this world? A life in which you know less of anxiety and fear and anger to a life in which you know more of peace and security and love?

Then I am asking you to give up 10 minutes each day to turn to the Word of God in devotion. The Word of God is the power of God. The more time we spend with it, the more we grow in faith which takes hold of divine power filled with all of the things that truly make life worth living: peace; security; love and so much more!

Director of Family Ministry and Youth Kristen Galloway and Director of Adult Christian Education Linda Gerlach have made certain that there are plenty of devotional resources available in the Gathering Place. If you are not already in the habit of a daily devotion for you and/or your family, then please look at them and find one that will suite you.

Do you want to live a better life in this world? Then, please, give up ten minutes a day in devotion to the Word of God!

Lent begins this week with Ash Wednesday! We will have a Confessional Service featuring the Imposition of Ashes along with Holy Communion this Wednesday at both 9:30 in the morning and 7:00 in the evening. A Fellowship Meal will begin at 5:30. Wednesday services - are 30 minutes in length after Ash Wednesday - and Fellowship Meals will continue throughout Lent. The theme for the homilies will be "Prophecy and Me" focusing upon six relatively well-known and very powerful prophetic passages from the prophet Isaiah. Please consider giving up 30 minutes each Wednesday during Lent!

Seder Meal. Yes, a Seder Meal will be held Thursday, March 29 beginning at 5:00 in the Upper Fellowship Hall preceding the Maundy Thursday Holy Week service at 7:00 in the sanctuary. Please stay tuned for details! Mark your calendars! Hope to see you there!

GOD'S LOVE SHINING THROUGH US . . . OPENING DOORS AND CHANGING LIVES!

***** WORSHIP SCHEDULE *****

Sunday Worship at 8:00 & 10:45 A.M.
(Communion late on the 1st & 3rd, early on the 2nd and 4th Sundays)
Sunday Education Hour at 9:30 A.M.
Monday Worship at 7:00 P.M. (Communion on the 1st and 3rd weekends)

THIS WEDNESDAY - Ash Wednesday. “Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.” “LAW AND GOSPEL” is the first Prophecy and Message from Isaiah 1. Wednesday at 9:30 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. - Confessional Worship with Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion.

NEXT SUNDAY & MONDAY - First Sunday in Lent. “The Lord will provide.” Sunday at 8:00 & 10:45 A.M. - Uplifting Worship with Communion at 10:45. Monday at 7:00 P.M. - Uplifting Worship with Communion.

WE ARE FRIENDLY! But do our visitors know this? Let’s go out of our way to greet those we do not recognize. May the love of God SHINE brightly through us to one another!

CONFIRMATION CLASS ASSIGNMENTS - Assignments for Thursday, February 15:

FIRST YEAR - Read The Third Article along with Questions 153-161 on pages 147-153 of Luther’s Small Catechism. Read Chapter Twenty-Three from The Story: Jesus’ Ministry Begins. Complete a Worship Summary Form. Read John chapter 1 from the Bible. Mentor Question: “During the Forty Days of the Church Year Season of Lent (which begins on Ash Wednesday), we are asking our members and regular visitors to give up ten minutes a day for a daily personal/family devotion. Why is daily time in the Word of God important?”

SECOND YEAR - Read The Third Article along with Questions 153-161 on pages 147-153 of Luther’s Small Catechism. Complete Lesson Twenty-Two (The Person of the Holy Spirit; The Work of the Holy Spirit I) from Exploring Luther’s Small Catechism. Complete a Worship Summary Form. Read Matthew chapter 17 from the Bible. Mentor Question: “During the Forty Days of the Church Year Season of Lent (which begins on Ash Wednesday), we are asking our members and regular visitors to give up ten minutes a day for a daily personal/family devotion. Why is daily time in the Word of God important?”
IMPORTANT! Begin review question sheets for Affirmation of Faith Night.